



## Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Reference: 06521/12

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Level 8 Primary Industries Building  
80 Ann Street Brisbane 4000  
GPO Box 46 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone +61 07 3239 3000**  
**Facsimile +61 07 3211 8199**  
**Email daff@ministerial.qld.gov.au**

Australian Fauna Care  
**Email: [info@fauna.org.au](mailto:info@fauna.org.au)**

Dear Sir,

I refer to your email and petition to the Honourable Andrew Powell MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection, concerning proposed changes that allow Damage Mitigation Permits (DMPs) to be issued to control flying foxes in orchards and to allow for the removal or relocation of flying fox colonies.

As animal welfare falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable John McVeigh, MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, your correspondence has been forwarded to this Office for consideration. I have been asked to respond on Minister McVeigh's behalf.

In relation to animal welfare, the Queensland Government is committed to ensuring that all animals in Queensland have appropriate standards of welfare. The *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* (ACPA) is one of the world's most advanced pieces of animal welfare legislation and it affords high levels of care and protection to all animals in Queensland.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has been working and it will continue to work with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) to ensure that the animal welfare impacts will be taken into consideration in the control and relocation of flying foxes.

I note the many comments made in the petition and I have passed these onto DAFF officers involved in liaising with DEHP officers, for their information.

If you require further information, please contact Laurie Dowling, Principal Scientist (Animal Welfare) of DAFF on telephone 07 3239 3956, or email [laurie.dowling@daff.qld.gov.au](mailto:laurie.dowling@daff.qld.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

**Bruce Mills**  
**Chief of Staff**